

periments, as seem to promise a full Decision in this Matter.

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VI. *Some Observations concerning the Substance commonly called, Black-Lead, by the late Dr. Rob. Plot, F. R. S.*

THE Mineral Substance, called, Black Lead (our common Lead being the true Black Lead, and so called, in Opposition to Tin, which is the White Lead) found only at *Keswick in Cumberland*, and there called, *Wadt*, or *Kellow*; by *Dr. Merret*, *Nigrica Fabrilis*, from its use in Scoring, as the *Rubrica Fabrilis*, or the Red Ochre is; is certainly so far from having any thing of Mettal in it, that it has nothing of Fusion, much less Ductility; nor can it be reckoned amongst the Stones, for want of Hardness; it remains therefore that it must have Place amongst the Earths, tho' it dissolve not in Water, as most Earths will, except stiff Clays, and Ochres; among the latter whereof I guess it may be reckoned, it seeming to be a sort of close Earth, of very fine and loose Parts, so burnt that it is become Black and Shining, discolouring the Hands, as all the Ochres do; whence the most Proper Name that can be given it, perhaps, may be *Ochra Nigra*, or Black Ochre, being a Stony Sort, as there are Stony Sort of the Red and Yellow Ochres, as well as Clay.